

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (original) A lubricating base stock for internal combustion engine oil consisting essentially of an ester (A) obtained from an ethylene oxide adduct of diol having a neopentyl structure and a saturated aliphatic monocarboxylic acid having 4 to 12 carbon atoms,

wherein the ethylene oxide adduct is obtained by adding ethylene oxide to a diol having a neopentyl structure in a ratio of 1 to 4 moles with respect to 1 mol of the diol,

the saturated aliphatic monocarboxylic acid is a linear carboxylic acid or a mixture of saturated aliphatic monocarboxylic acids comprising a linear aliphatic monocarboxylic acid in a ratio of at least 50 mol%, and

a dynamic viscosity of the ester (A) at 100°C is 1 to 5 mm²/s, a viscosity index of the ester (A) is at least 140, and a total acid value of the ester (A) is 0.5 mg KOH/g or less.

2. (original) The lubricating base stock of claim 1, wherein the mixture of saturated aliphatic monocarboxylic acids comprises a saturated linear aliphatic monocarboxylic acid in a ratio of at least 80 mol%.

3. (currently amended) A lubricating base stock for internal combustion engine oil consisting essentially of the ester (A) according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2 and an ester (B) having an average molecular weight that is different from that of the ester (A),

wherein the ester (B) is obtained from a neopentyl polyol alkylene oxide adduct and a saturated aliphatic monocarboxylic acid, and

a weight ratio of the ester (A) and the ester (B) is 80 : 20 to 99.9 to 0.1.

4. (currently amended) An internal combustion engine lubricating oil composition comprising the base stock according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2 as a main component, 0.05 to 10 wt% of an antioxidant, 0.05 to 10 wt% of a detergent-dispersant, and 0.01 to 30 wt% of a viscosity index improver.

5. (original) An internal combustion engine lubricating oil composition comprising the base stock according to claim 3 as a main component, 0.05 to 10 wt% of an antioxidant, 0.05 to 10 wt% of a detergent-dispersant, and 0.01 to 30 wt% of a viscosity index improver.

6. (new) A lubricating base stock for internal combustion engine oil consisting essentially of the ester (A) according to claim 2 and an ester (B) having an average molecular weight that is different from that of the ester (A),

wherein the ester (B) is obtained from a neopentyl polyol alkylene oxide adduct and a saturated aliphatic monocarboxylic acid, and

a weight ratio of the ester (A) and the ester (B) is 80 : 20 to 99.9 : 0.1.

7. (new) An internal combustion engine lubricating oil composition comprising the base stock according to claim 2 as a main component, 0.05 to 10 wt% of an antioxidant, 0.05 to 10 wt% of a detergent-dispersant, and 0.01 to 30 wt% of a viscosity index improver.

8. (new) An internal combustion engine lubricating oil composition comprising the base stock according to claim 6 as a main component, 0.05 to 10 wt% of an antioxidant, 0.05 to 10 wt% of an detergent-dispersant, and 0.01 to 30 wt% of a viscosity index improver.